

WASHINGTON – Today, Congressman Tim Ryan (OH-17), member of the House Budget Committee, condemned the Continuing Resolution (CR) introduced by House Republican Leadership. This bill would be responsible for funding federal programs through September 2011. In Ohio, the CR would reduce the average pell grant award by \$670, cut 2,575 jobs, and reduce major transportation and infrastructure investments by \$89,662,973.

**“Instead of proposing smart investments that create wealth and increase American competitiveness in a global market, House Republicans have presented illogical solutions that attack working families and discourage innovation and prosperity,”** said Congressman Ryan.

**“In order to open up a small window of press opportunity, the GOP is willing to close doors on serious investments that will create real economic recovery. My fear is that this Republican budget will damage our fragile recovery.”**

In addition to the local impact, the Continuing Resolution would make the following cuts nationwide:

**Transportation & Infrastructure** – the Republican CR cuts key investment in roads, schools, bridges, which are critical for businesses to grow and which create good-paying American jobs.

Despite the clear link between transportation funding and economic recovery, the CR cuts billions for transit, high speed rail, roads and other key infrastructure projects. The proposed cuts to transportation include:

- \$4.975 billion in High Speed and Intercity Passenger Rail grants;
  - \$710 million in Transit Capital Investment Grants;
  - \$292 million in Federal Highway Administration Surface Transportation Priorities;
  - \$150 million in grants to Amtrak; and
  - \$100 million in FRA Rail Safety Technology grants.
  - \$234 million to improve our nation’s air traffic control system
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- These cuts will cause a loss of 25,000 new construction jobs and the cancellation of 76 projects in 40 states.
  - U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), estimates that each \$1 billion spent on the federal highway system supported, on average, 30,000 jobs.
  - The American Public Transportation Association estimates “that every \$10 million in capital investment in public transportation yields \$30 million in increased business sales” and saves \$15 million in transportation costs for both highway and transit users.
  - Every \$1 billion in federal transit investments results in 35,000 jobs, \$3.6 billion in sales, and \$500 million in tax revenues.

**Education** – Education is critical to ensuring that the next generation of students is prepared to become the educated workforce of tomorrow.

- **Head Start:** Under the CR more than 200,000 children will be kicked out of Head Start and thousands of teachers will lose their jobs
- **Pell Grants:** The CR will cause an \$800 reduction per student in the maximum Pell Grant award. Pell Grants provide the basic foundation of federal student aid and help more than 8 million students afford to attend college.

**Public Health and Safety**– The Republican CR cuts important funding that keeps American families safe.

- It will mean 1,330 fewer cops on the beat by eliminating the COPS hiring program
- It will lead to 2,400 fewer firefighters on the job protecting their communities by eliminating funding for SAFER grants
- It cuts FDA funding by \$241 million and will lead to furloughs and/or RIFs of hundreds of FDA staff including those who inspect our domestic and imported foods.
- The CR cuts funds by \$88 million below current levels for the Food Safety and Inspection Service, which is responsible for the safety of meat and poultry. According to the USDA this will mean furloughing federal inspectors in slaughter and processing plants, causing plants to shut down for six to nine weeks. This will hurt the plants, the economies in their towns, the workers, producers and consumers, as prices rise. USDA estimates an economic loss of \$11 billion.

**LIHEAP** - Heating Assistance for Low-Income Families.

- Republicans plan to cut \$400 million from LIHEAP.
- This will leave thousands of Americans struggling to heat their homes, while missing an opportunity to make our homes more efficient starting with those who need it most. Weatherizing homes is one of the cheapest and easiest ways to save Americans money, cut energy use and reduce dangerous pollution.

**Homeless Veterans** – The Republican proposal would terminate the Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing program that gives homeless veterans rental vouchers.

- A recent report from the Department of Housing and Urban Development concluded that there were more than 135,000 homeless veterans – nearly half of whom were living on the street or in abandoned buildings.